AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An imaging apparatus, comprising:

i) a planar electrostatic recording material, which records image information as an electrostatic latent image, and which generates electric currents in accordance with the electrostatic latent image when a read-out surface of the planar electrostatic recording material is scanned with a reading electromagnetic wave,

ii) a flat plate-shaped substrate, which supports the electrostatic recording material from a side of the read-out surface, and which has permeability with respect to the reading electromagnetic wave, ~~and~~

iii) a flat plate-shaped base plate for supporting the flat plate-shaped substrate from a side opposite to a surface of the substrate, on which surface the electrostatic recording material is formed, the flat plate-shaped base plate having a rigidity higher than the rigidity of the substrate and having permeability with respect to the reading electromagnetic wave~~.~~ and

iv) a case housing, wherein the flat plate-shaped base plate is fixed to the case housing.

2. (previously presented): The apparatus as defined in Claim 1 wherein the base plate has a coefficient of thermal expansion approximately identical with the coefficient of thermal expansion of the substrate.

3. (previously presented): he apparatus as defined in Claim 1 wherein the base plate has a refractive index approximately identical with the refractive index of the substrate.

4. (previously presented): The apparatus as defined in Claim 2 wherein the base plate has a refractive index approximately identical with the refractive index of the substrate.

5. (previously presented): The apparatus as defined in Claim 1, 2, 3, or 4 wherein a surface of the base plate and a surface of the substrate, which surfaces stand facing each other, are adhered by an adhesive agent to each other.

6. (previously presented): The apparatus as defined in Claim 1, 2, 3, or 4 wherein an anti-reflection coating layer for preventing reflection of the reading electromagnetic wave is formed on a light entry face of the base plate, upon which light entry face the reading electromagnetic wave is incident.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (previously presented): The apparatus defined in Claim 1 wherein the base plate is disposed towards the side opposite to the surface of the flat plate-shaped substrate, on which surface the electrostatic recording material is formed.

10. (new): The apparatus defined in claim 1 wherein the base plate includes a top edge, side edges, and a bottom edge, and the case housing supports the base plate at at least the side edges.

11. (new): The apparatus defined in claim 10 wherein the case housing supports the base plate at the side edges and the bottom edge.

12. (new): The apparatus defined in claim 10 further comprising means for transferring the electrical currents out from the planar electrostatic recording material, disposed at the top edge.

13. (new): The apparatus defined in claim 1 wherein the planar electrostatic recording material as including a first electrically conductive layer and a second electrically conductive layer, wherein the second electrically conductive layer is disposed at the read-out surface of the planar electrostatic recording material and the first electrically conductive layer is disposed at a surface opposing the read-out surface of the planar electrostatic recording material.

14.(new): The apparatus defined in claim 13 wherein the recording photo-conductive layer and the reading photo-conductive layer being disposed between the first and second electrically conductive layers.

15. (new): The apparatus defined in claim 1 wherein the flat plate-shaped base plate is supported vertically by at least two end regions of a top region of the flat plate-shaped base plate and substantially does not bend.

16. (new): The apparatus defined in claim 15 further comprising a current detecting means disposed between the two end regions of the top region of the flat plate-shaped base plate, the current detecting means communicating with the flat plate-shaped substrate.